

West Lafayette Beautification Award

June, 2010

The Beautification Award for June is going to Billy and Joanne Bross who live at 712 Essex in Barberry Heights. They have been gardening here for the last eight years and have grown accustomed to the challenges of heavy clay and dense shade in the side yards. Their first change to the landscape was the addition of a fenced kitchen garden. With the yearly addition of humus, the raised beds are very productive, in addition to being very attractive. Billy wanted to add trees, so planted a cherry tree as well as crabapples. They brought several family heirloom and pass-along plants from Wisconsin, including iris from the family cemetery and trillium. They have incorporated many native plant species in shady areas along with butterfly nectar plants in their sunny beds.

Joanne's contribution is that of head garden designer with an eye to color and other elements. Billy is the hands-on gardener, eager to try many different plants. They enjoy hunting for bargains for statuary, fountains and other garden art. There are two different water features, in addition to a dry creek bed. The roses thrive in the front landscape along with many spring bulbs. Their gardens will be on the Barberry Heights home and garden tour Sunday, June 13th. A walk through this landscape reveals great attention to detail and the gardening expertise of Billy and Joanne.





